

STATE OF CONNECTICUT
DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION
BUREAU OF WATER PROTECTION AND LAND REUSE
REMEDIATION DIVISION



December 17, 2009

Mr. Edward M. Keith, Jr.
Regional Manager
NRG Energy, Inc.
1866 Middletown Road
Middletown, CT 06457-5712

Re: Addendum to Remedial Action Plan / Closure Plan for RCRA Container Storage Area for NRG -Montville Station, Montville, CT

Dear Mr. Keith:

Staff of the Remediation Division of the Bureau of Water Protection and Land Reuse of the Connecticut Department of Environmental Protection (Department) have reviewed the letter entitled "Addendum to Remedial Action Plan - AOC 1, AOC5, AOC 9 and AOC14, Closure Plan Part 1 CSA Montville Generating Station, Montville, Connecticut", dated November 23, 2009 (Addendum) and the report entitled "Remedial Action Plan- AOC 1, AOC5, AOC 9 and AOC14, Montville Generating Station, Montville, Connecticut", dated June 17, 2009 (RAP) for the NRG power plant located at 74 Lathrop Road in Montville. Shaw Environmental & Infrastructure, Inc. (Shaw) prepared both documents on behalf of Montville Power, LLC (NRG).

The RAP and Addendum were submitted to meet the intent of the RCRA Closure Plan Part 1: Facility Information and Site Characterization Work Plan, as recommended by the Department's *Draft RCRA Closure Plan Guidance for Treatment, Storage and Disposal Facilities, Container Storage Areas and Tank Systems*, dated November 1993.

Comments Regarding Addendum

The Addendum provides some steps of the site characterization process and results, specifically:

1. List of the constituents of concern (COCs)

The list of COCs was derived by Shaw based on review of facility records which summarized wastes stored in the container storage area (CSA). The COCs for the CSA include volatile organic compounds, semi- volatile organic compounds,

summarized wastes stored in the container storage area (CSA). The COCs for the CSA include volatile organic compounds, semi-volatile organic compounds, hydrocarbons, extractable total petroleum hydrocarbons, 13 priority pollutant metals plus vanadium, and polychlorinated biphenyls. DEP notes that the RAP identifies vanadium as a COC but the addendum does not. DEP expects that vanadium will be included as a COC.

2. Identification of all potential human exposure pathways

The addendum states that there are no known significant potential exposure pathways. Current site workers may come into occasional contact with the concrete pad and construction/utility workers may come into contact with soil below and around the CSA during repairs and construction activity. During construction, investigation, and remediation activities, proper personal protective equipment will be used to limit worker potential exposure. An environmental land use restriction (ELUR) will be recorded for the entire property and NRG plans to potentially build a new structure over the CSA as part of a facility repowering project. If a new structure is not built over the area, NRG must evaluate the need for additional measures to prevent human exposure to any contaminated soil that may remain in the area.

3. Identification of the presence/absence of contamination requiring remediation

Based on the recent CSA inspection, the floor, walls and berm of the former CSA is not entirely sound. A small section of chipped concrete was noted in the floor and a small crack was noted in a vertical column. A rusted, capped pipe runs vertically through the floor of the CSA and an additional pipe runs horizontally through the wall of the CSA. Mineral staining, apparently from groundwater infiltration was noted along the horizontal pipe was noted on the floor in the vicinity of the pipe. Four soil borings will be completed to characterize soil below the concrete in the CSA. Borings will extend to a maximum depth of 5 feet below ground surface and two analytical samples will be collected from each location and analyzed for the COCs listed above. The floor and secondary containment inside the CSA will also be steam cleaned, the floor will be inspected for cracks and staining, and concrete chip samples will be collected at a rate of one sample per 70 square feet. Additional chip samples may be collected in areas of suspected staining, and two chip samples will be collected from an area where no wastes were stored to determine background concentrations.

4. Determination the extent of contamination in structures and soils

NRG will determine the horizontal and vertical extent of any soil contamination. Please note that DEP expects all releases to be fully delineated, including those portions of a release where contaminants are present at detectable concentrations below the criteria specified in the remediation standard regulations. The work plan states that borings will be extended to a maximum depth of 5 feet. DEP expects that the borings will be extended to whatever depth is necessary to fully delineate the vertical extent of contamination.

Extensive soil and groundwater investigations have been conducted at the site under the Connecticut Property Transfer Act and the RCRA corrective action programs at the Site. The results of these investigations should be used, together with the results of any additional investigation in the CSA, to evaluate whether the contamination is related to releases from the CSA or other sources/activities at the site.

The Department concurs with the Container Storage Area closure approach as presented in the RAP and Addendum.

Comments Regarding RAP

The RAP addresses AOC1, AOC5, AOC9 and AOC 14, as well as the container storage area. DEP wishes to restate the comments regarding the RAP it provided previously in an e-mail dated July 21, 2009 from me to Mr. Andrew Walker of Shaw. DEP notes that NRG acknowledged these comments in an e-mail dated July 22, 2009 from Mr. Raymond Cadorette of Shaw. DEP is restating its previous comments in this letter because of their possible impact on the overall remediation and use of the site.

Section 3.5 Soil Management

The draft RAP proposes to excavate soil from various AOCs and reuse it in the area of a building to be constructed. Any soil with contaminant concentrations less than 30x the direct exposure and/ or pollutant mobility criteria would be considered acceptable for reuse. This would only be acceptable for soil that would be under the new building, provided that an appropriate ELUR was

recorded. Soil under the building would be considered inaccessible and environmentally isolated. However, any soil outside the building footprint would not be considered environmentally isolated. This means it would need to meet the pollutant mobility criteria. Such soil would also need to meet the requirements regarding the direct exposure criteria. This could be done either by cleaning up the soil to meet the direct exposure criteria, or by rendering the soil inaccessible and recording an appropriate environmental land use restriction.

The RAP states that an environmental land use restriction will be filed to document locations where soil is reused and to provide additional restrictions. DEP supports the appropriate use of environmental land use restriction. DEP also notes that at a meeting on March 30, 2009, Mr. Walker had indicated that Northeast Utilities held a right- of- way over part of the area where an ELUR was contemplated. Mr. Walker stated that Northeast Utilities was probably not willing to subordinate its interest to the ELUR.

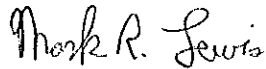
If NRG is unable to obtain a subordination agreement NRG will not be able to use an ELUR. Instead, the area of the right- of- way could be remediated to meet RSR requirements. This would eliminate the need to record an ELUR for that area. This is because a utility easement generally gives the entity holding the easement the right to excavate or do other things that would disturb the soil protected by the ELUR. DEP encourages NRG to further pursue with Northeast Utilities the possibility of obtaining a subordination agreement. DEP notes that ELURs contain a provision for ELURs to be released to perform needed maintenance work. In order to obtain such a release, DEP would require that a work plan be filed and approved prior to the start of the work. The work plan would include provisions for ensuring that any contaminated soil was properly managed, and that at the conclusion of the work, the site would be restored to a condition that is in compliance with the RSRs.

DEP looks forward to continuing to work with NRG, Shaw, and EPA to meet the remaining requirements of the Connecticut Property Transfer Act and the RCRA corrective action programs.

Mr. Edward M. Keith Jr.
Re: NRG Montville
Page 5 of 5

Please contact me at (860) 424-3768 if you have any questions.

Sincerely,



Mark R. Lewis
Environmental Analyst 3
Remediation Division
Bureau of Water Protection and Land Reuse

c: Mr. Andrew Walker, Shaw Environmental & Infrastructure, Inc., 100 Technology
Center Drive, Stoughton, MA 02072-4705

Mr. Juan Perez, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, 5 Post Office Square,
Suite 100, Mail code: OSRR07-3, Boston, MA 02109-3912